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PRESS RELEASE

Baker-Polito Administration Encourages Residents to Get Outdoors for Free “Go Green on Black Friday” Hikes

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Department of Conservation & Recreation

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BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration today announced that on Friday, November 29, 2019, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will offer the public free, guided hikes in eight state parks as part of the agency’s annual “Go Green on Black Friday” campaign, which encourages everybody to get outside and enjoy the great outdoors on the day after Thanksgiving. All hikes will range between one and five miles, and will be led by a DCR staff member.

“The Baker-Polito Administration is thrilled to continue the long standing tradition of providing hiking opportunities for residents to connect with nature the day after Thanksgiving,” **said DCR Acting Commissioner Jim Montgomery**. “Massachusetts has the ninth largest state parks system in the country, and ‘Go Green on Black Friday’ hikes are a great way for newcomers and regular park users to avoid the Black Friday frenzy, spend time together, and enjoy a healthy outdoor activity.”

“Go Green on Black Friday” hikes range from light to moderately strenuous levels of difficulty, and are best for families with children ages ten and older. Details about hike

locations, difficulty, length, terrain, and tips regarding proper clothing are listed on DCR's website at www.mass.gov/dcr (/dcr). Hikers are encouraged to share photos on social media by tagging @MassDCR using the hashtags- #GoGreen #OptOutside.

The DCR's "Go Green on Black Friday" hikes will occur at the following locations:

Borderland State Park, North Easton, MA

1:00PM-3:30PM

Hike around Lower Leach Pond and Bob's Trail. Pace is moderate with rocky terrain in places. The distance is approximately 4.5 miles. Meet at the Borderland State Park Visitor Center, 259 Massapoag Avenue.

Massasoit State Park, East Taunton, MA

1:00PM-3:00PM

The moderately paced hike along challenging terrain will be approximately 4 to 5 miles. Meet at the Contact Station main parking lot, 1361 Middleboro Avenue.

Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, Uxbridge, MA

12:00PM-1:00PM

Hike the Goat Hill Loop Trail at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park. The distance is approximately 2 miles along a rocky forest trail at an easy to moderate pace. Meet at the River Bend Farm Visitor Center, 287 Oak Street.

Wachusett Reservoir Watershed, Boylston, MA

1:00PM-2:30PM

The easy paced hike is approximately 2 miles along woodland trails leading to the Wachusett Reservoir water's edge. Meet at the Gate 8 parking lot, Route 70 across from Cross Street & Pine Ridge Farm. Importantly, dogs are not permitted on Watershed property, service dogs are welcome.

Mount Tom State Reservation, Holyoke, MA

1:00PM-2:30PM

Hike over old roads, trails, hillsides, and through occasional mud. Pace and terrain are moderate. Distance is approximately 2.5 miles. Meet at the Mount Tom State Reservation Stone House Visitor Center, 125 Reservation Road, approximately 2 miles uphill from the park's Route 5 entrance.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls, MA

1:00PM-3:00PM

Walk along the paved Canalside Rail Trail in Turners Falls for a hike of approximately 3 miles. Pace is easy along easy terrain. Meet at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A.

Harold Parker State Forest, North Andover, MA

10:00AM-12:00PM

The hike is for a couple of hours along moderate trails. Co-sponsored by the Friends of Harold Parker State Forest. Meet at the Harold Parker State Forest headquarters parking lot, 305 Middleton Road.

Revere Beach Reservation, Revere, MA

10:00AM-12:00PM

The hike is over approximately 3 miles of beach sand along the reservation, causing the terrain to be uneven. Meet outside at One Eliot Circle, Revere (the tan DCR building at the corner of Dolphin Avenue). Free Parking available along Revere Beach Boulevard. Accessible by Public transportation: MBTA Blue line Revere Beach Station, turn right on Revere Beach Boulevard and walk to One Eliot Circle, Revere, MA.

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dcr
Massachusetts



Department of Conservation & Recreation

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DCR manages state parks and oversees more than 450,000 acres throughout Massachusetts. It protects, promotes, and enhances the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

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